

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

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Action

Control: 7886

EUR

Rec'd: APRIL 13, 1959
12:26 PM

Info

FROM: MOSCOW

RMR

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 2049, APRIL 13, 5 PM

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PRIORITY

SENT DEPARTMENT 2049, REPEATED INFORMATION LONDON 388,
PARIS 359, BONN 276, BERLIN 163.

I DELIVERED NOTE (DEPTEL 1649) TO KUZNETSOV AT 4 PM MOSCOW TIME. HE OBSERVED THAT WHILE NOT AN EXPERT HE UNDERSTOOD AGREEMENT REACHED ON THIS MATTER HAD COVERED QUESTION OF ALTITUDE OF FLIGHTS AND HE DID NOT THINK SOVIET MILITARY AUTHORITIES WOULD ACCEPT OUR POSITION WHICH IN ANY EVENT HE DID NOT CONSIDER WELL TAKEN. HE ALSO MENTIONED HE DID NOT THINK IT APPROPRIATE TO CITE TU-104 SINCE THIS PLANE ALWAYS NOTIFIED APPROPRIATE AUTHORITIES OF ITS FLIGHTS AND OBEYED APPROPRIATE REGULATIONS.

I REPLIED I WAS ALSO NOT EXPERT BUT WAS CERTAIN WE HAD NEVER AGREED TO 10,000 FOOT CEILING ON OUR FLIGHTS. AGREEMENT WAS FOR AIR CORRIDOR AND NOT TUNNEL. TU-104 HAD BEEN CITED AS EXAMPLE OF CHANGE IN FLIGHT CHARACTERISTICS. I SAID I HAPPENED TO KNOW THAT TRANSPORT COMMAND HAD RECENTLY RECEIVED SOME JET TRANSPORTS FOR FLIGHTS THAT HAD FORMERLY BEEN HANDLED WITH ORDINARY AIRCRAFT. I ALSO MENTIONED MY OWN EXPERIENCE OF FLYING IN CLOUD WHEN THERE MIGHT BE CLEAR SKIES ONE OR TWO THOUSAND FEET HIGHER.

THOMPSON

RV/23

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